

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

VUORINEN et al

Atty. Ref.:

30-497

Serial No.

09/262,912

Group:

1731

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TO 1700

Filed:

March 5, 1999

Examiner:

Alvo

For:

METHOD OF TREATING CHEMICAL CELLULOSE PULP

November 13, 2002

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above identified application for which a Notice of Appeal was filed on October 8, 2002, and for which a Request for Continued Examination is being concurrently filed, please further amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:1

21. (Four Times Amended) A method of treating chemical cellulose pulp from an alkaline pulping process, after cooking and preferably after oxygen delignification, with

^{1 1} Pursuant to Rule 121(c), a marked-up version of the amended claims appears in Appendix I hereto and shows all changes by underlining added language and bracketing deleted language.